FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF

"CHOICES"

A THREE-YEAR ACTION PLAN

TO

ADDRESS SPOUSAL ASSAULT

1986-89

Prepared by

The Ministerial Committee on Spousal Assault

JUNE 1987

90-02426/

CONTENTS

Background	i
Executive Summary	i
Ministerial Committee Members	ii
Recommendations	1
Action Implemented	
General Comments	
April 1986 - March 1987	
Appendix - Contributions	
A - Women's Secretariat	23
B - Dept. of Social Services	25

On behalf of the Ministerial Committee on Spousal Assault, I am pleased to submit our First Annual Report in accordance with the directive given to us in "Choices" - A Three Year Action Plan to address Spousal Assault.

BACKGROUND

The final report of the Task Force on Spousal Assault, prepared for the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, Government of the Northwest Territories was accepted in May 1985.

The Ministerial Committee, made up of representatives from responsible Territorial and Federal Departments and community representatives, prepared a 3-Year Action Plan, "CHOICES" in response to the recommendations. The report was adopted in the February 1986 Session and implementation began April 1, 1986.

The Ministerial Committee, chaired by the Women's Secretariat has the mandate to facilitate and monitor the implementation of "CHOICES".

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

There has been positive response and interest from communities to increase their understanding of the problem of family violence and initiate solutions. It was recommended that:

> **"Programs and services should be provided which will encourage and enable families and communities to help themselves and wherever possible be community-based"**

The Department of Social Services has the lead role and has developed **"The Family Violence Prevention Program"**.

We have seen existing and new groups develop locally based programs and projects and access funds through this program and other agencies. Through visits to communities by resource people working in the area of family violence, individuals are beginning to come together as concerned citizens to focus on what kinds of services can be developed. There is a continuing demand for community development assistance, as well as information and audio visual materials.

It is clear that attitudes are beginning to change. Communities are more willing to acknowledge the problem and take responsibility for working towards solutions.

Toni Graeme,
Chairperson,
Ministerial Committee
on Spousal Assault.

MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON SPOUSAL ASSAULT

Toni Graeme (Chairperson)
Executive Director
Women's Secretariat
Government of the N.W.T.

Geoff Bickert
Senior Crown Prosecutor
Justice Canada

Donna Dupuis
Yellowknife

Lorne Wagner
Superintendent, C.I.B.
R.C.M.P.

Doug Miller
Executive Director
Legal Aid Services Board

Elaine Berthelet
Chief, Programs & Standards
Dept. of Health
Government of the N.W.T.

Bronwyn Watters
Chief, Programs
Department of Social Services
Government of the N.W.T.

Cheryl Walker
Legal Counsel
Dept. of Justice
Government of the N.W.T.

Maureen Cochrane
Program Co-ordinator
N.W.T. Housing Corporation
Government of the N.W.T.

Candace Savage
Public Affairs Officer
Culture and Communications
Government of the N.W.T.

Garry Singer
Acting Secretary
Priorities & Planning Secretariat
Government of the N.W.T.

Lynn Brooks
Yellowknife

Gail Joyce
Director
Policy & Evaluation
Department of Education
Government of the N.W.T.

Sharon Kirwan
Asst. Regional Nursing
Officer (Education)
Medical Services Branch
Health & Welfare Canada

RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT(S) RESPONSIBLE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION IMPLEMENTED	GENERAL COMMENTS
AID TO VICTIMS **Information and Education**				
1. Develop, produce (translate where possible) and distribute information/educational and public awareness materials, pamphlets, posters, handbooks, TV and radio spots. Materials are needed for the general public (awareness); spousal assault victims and offenders; community action groups and offenders; community action groups and volunteer workers; councils and schools; nurses, social workers; RCMP and court workers. (See pgs. 17, 54-57, 87)	Culture & Communications	The Dept. of Culture & Communications has developed a plan for the implementation of a comprehensive Public Education program consisting of: - Information Kit; - Radio Information Package; - Spousal Assault Drama Project, and ; - Newsletter. COSTS: 1986/87: $81,000 1987/88: $79,000 1988/89: $30,000	The following is the action implemented from recommendations 1 & 2: Resource Catalogue: A listing of audio-visual and print materials available on spousal assault. 2,000 copies distributed. English only. Nov. 86	The following comments are from Culture & Communications: Has generated many enquiries for materials.
2. Provide information (posters, pamphlets) on rights of victims of spousal assault and assistance available to them. Be aware of current community resources available (such as safe shelter). (See pg. 17)		Health & Welfare Canada, RCMP, Social Services, Justice will be developing pamphlets in conjunction with Culture & Communications as part of the Interagency Referral System. This cost will be absorbed by the Dept. of Social Services.	Video Translation "Village to Village", a program on community action made in Alaska. Translated into Chipeywan and South Slavey: distributed to groups. Nov. 86 TV Spots: a. 3-28 second and 1-58 second spots, English only. b. Translations to follow Spring '87. Feb. 87	Other Dene languages to follow in Spring '87. One of the more popular films because it features northern native people of Alaska. a. English sent to CBC-Ottawa. Televised at their discretion. Follow-up Spring '87. b. Aired at their discretion. Follow-up needed.

RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT(S) RESPONSIBLE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION IMPLEMENTED	GENERAL COMMENTS
AID TO VICTIMS **Information and Education-continued**				
			Produce Radio Programs in Native Languages: a. Radio spots in English, Loucheux and Inuktitut have been produced. Spots in other Dene languages completed. b. Six fifteen-minute radio documentaries on spousal assault "Behind Closed Doors" have been produced. Broadcast on CBC Mackenzie/Inuvik, Dec. 8 & 16. Later in the Baffin. Tapes being made available to community radio stations, plus a printed transcript for adult education, resource centres, Health & Welfare and on request from other groups. Jan. 87	a. Aired evenings, weekends, 9-12 noon Jan. - Feb. 87. b. Aired in Dec 86 in the afternoon, with a phone in after. Requested airing in the evening with phone, in Spring '87. CBC receptive and will work it into their programming.
			Poster: "Spousal Assault Hurts Everyone-You Do Have A Choice": Two posters in English/ Inuktitut/Chip/Dogrib/N. & S. Slavey. Sept. 86	Has had a positive and strong impacts. Recommend two more posters winter '87

RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT(S) RESPONSIBLE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION IMPLEMENTED	GENERAL COMMENTS
AID TO VICTIMS **Information and Education-continued**				
		Co-operate With Other Agencies: a. Co-operated with SAFA on the translation of two booklets on family violence. b. Providing information, advice and contacts to journalists from in and outside the NWT. c. Initiated with Women's Secretariat, Oct. 86, regular monthly meetings with people who work in the family violence field, for information sharing and mutual support. Completed. Other Materials: a. Buttons: "BE PART OF THE ANSWER", 2,000 distributed. English only. Dec. 86 b. Folder for complete information package. 500 copies for distribution. Jan. 87	a. SAFA will be printing in late Spring '87 for distribution.	

RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT(S) RESPONSIBLE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION IMPLEMENTED	GENERAL COMMENTS
AID TO VICTIMS **Information and Education-continued**				
			Help For Battered Women and Men Pamphlet: Five regional editions, with appropriate phone numbers. Distributed to helping agencies in the NWT. The text was provided on audio tape in Loucheux, Inuvaluktun, N. Slavey, at the request of the regional executive in Inuvik. Nov. 86	
			Produce Spousal Assault Newsletter: Produced quarterly: 1st edition Oct. 85, 2000+ mailing list compiled. Translated into Inuktitut. Focus is on action being taken in communities, upcoming conferences, research results, government and community based initiat - ives. Oct. 85	Comments from readers: "We make copies for people who need it. It helps many people". "It has been a great source of info. for me". "Provides community workers with excellent info."

RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT(S) RESPONSIBLE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION IMPLEMENTED	GENERAL COMMENTS
AID TO VICTIMS **Information and Education-continued**				
			Drama Projects: Contracts made with Pond Inlet Theatre Group and Fort Franklin to produce plays on spousal assault. - Pond Inlet completed two plays and toured in four Baffin communities Dec 86. - Fort Franklin's first performance in Jan 87.	Both productions were very well received in all communities. They were developed, produced and performed by community residents.
			Other Print Materials: a. Booklet for people who are violent towards their spouses in production. English and three dialects of Inuktitut. b. Pamphlet about the effect of spousal assault on children in production. c. A newspaper filler (one column graphic with slogan) was produced. SAFA agreed to offer it to all newspapers in the NWT. d. Pamphlet on funding sources for community action is being developed.	These are in the developmental stage. Completion Spring '87.

RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT(S) RESPONSIBLE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION IMPLEMENTED	GENERAL COMMENTS
AID TO VICTIMS **Information and Education-continued**				
3. Collect, catalogue and distribute information available throughout North America on spousal assault for interested northern agencies, etc. (See pg. 58)	Women's Secretariate, GNWT and Public Libraries	The Women's Secretariat has established a library of resources including material collected by the Task Force, Government and private publications. These materials are catalogued and distributed to libraries or other government departments as appropriate. A central catalogue is maintained by the Secretariat.	Relevant films, training manuals, batterers programs, Transition House/shelter/ safe home information, cycle of violence, effects of violence on children, self-help groups and pamphlets gathered and mailed out to groups and individuals across the NWT. Oct. 85 - Ongoing	By: Women's Secretariat There are increasing requests for the following: information, films, manuals, pamphlets since March '86. Two films translated into Inuktitut.
4. Ensure that the published materials collected by the Task Force are catalogued and available through the library system. (See pg. 58)			Copies of Task Force Report, "CHOICES" the 3-Year Action Plan to Address Spousal Assault, resource library catalogue on spousal assault and pertinent reports sent to libraries, schools and community groups. Jan. 86 - Ongoing	
5. Develop alcohol and drug awareness curriculum and family life curriculum for schools. (See pgs. 41-42, 54)	Health Education	The Dept. of Education, in conjunction with the Dept. of Health, is currently developing a family life education curriculum for the Northwest Territories schools as part of the entire School Health Program. The Alcohol and Drug Awareness Program is already being piloted in schools across the NWT.	a. Kindergarten- Grade six introduced in NWT schools spring '86. b. School Health Program will be mandatory and introduced in grades Kindergarten - nine, Sept. '87.	By: Education The Family Life Unit will be part of the Health Program and parents have the option of requesting their children be excused from this Unit. The majority of the Units of the Health Program will be ready in Sept. '87, and the remaining Units will be added Sept. '88 to complete the program.

RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT(S) RESPONSIBLE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION IMPLEMENTED	GENERAL COMMENTS
AID TO VICTIMS **Information and Education-continued**				
		Prior to introduction of Family Life Education in the classroom, there will be a teacher orientation program to familiarize teachers with sensitive materials as well as public information sessions, and pilot teaching projects to refine and adapt materials as necessary. (See Recommendation 16)	c. Procedures for reporting suspected child abuse developed for teachers, plus handbook. d. One year school/community counsellor training program introduced Feb. '87 - Ongoing.	d. Training will address spousal assault.
Medical Attention				
6. That apparent victims of spousal assault be given immediate medical attention. (See pg. 18)	Health & Welfare Canada, Social Services.	As specified in the Interagency Referral System/Protocol, victims of spousal assault will be taken immediately to the hospital or nursing station for medical attention prior to the initiation of any other action. Anticipated costs of implementing the Interagency Referral System Protocol, are minimal and are already within Social Services O & M.	Interagency Referral Protocol implemented. Pamphlets, posters and newsletters distributed through Culture/ Communications to nursing stations, hospitals, health centres. Ongoing	By: Health & Welfare Canada - not enough local resources to deal with all of the referrals: eg. Safe Houses, Social Services. - Not enough Social Services Personnel available at the appropriate times, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT(S) RESPONSIBLE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION IMPLEMENTED	GENERAL COMMENTS
AID TO VICTIMS **Access to Other Assistance**				
7. Lead the development of a coordinated interagency referral system, and include alcohol and drug workers. (See pgs. 40-41)	Social Services, Health & Welfare Canada, RCMP, Health	Initiated by the Department of Social Services an Interagency Referral System has been established and agreed to by RCMP, Health & Welfare Canada and Territorial Departments of Health and Social Services.	Protocol implemented. Varies from community to community as to how the implementation is carried out. Ongoing	
8. Participate in an interagency approach to assist victims of spousal assault. (See pgs. 19, 39, 54)				
9. Review requirements for social assistance and exercise flexibility and lenience for victims and families in transition. Provide social assistance for victims and families in transition. (See pg. 33)	Social Services	Spousal assault victims and their families currently can obtain client assistance under the Social Assistance Program. Revised regulations ensure that this will be done automatically if the family is in crisis. Transportation is provided as part of this assistance if temporary relocation is required.	Revised regulations ensure that this will be done automatically if the family is in a crisis. Directive given April 1984. Coding and instructions for Financial Assistance for Safe Homes per diem rates implemented. Ongoing	
10. Fund transportation costs of victims to shelters and day care costs, where necessary. (See pgs. 20,33)			Transportation is provided as part of the above assistance if temporary location is required.	
Shelter and Protection				
11. Assist victims in finding immediate safe shelter where needed. (See pg. 20)	RCMP	The RCMP is prepared to comply with this approach. This will be done through the Policy Centre of the Officer in Charge, Criminal Investigation Branch, Northwest Territories.	RCMP prepared to comply with this approach through Policy Centre of Officer in Charge, Criminal Investigation Branch.	RCMP There are not enough safe home homes and shelters.

RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT(S) RESPONSIBLE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION IMPLEMENTED	GENERAL COMMENTS
AID TO VICTIMS **Shelter and Protection**				
12. Give spousal assault victims priority for housing and day care, where required. (See pg. 21)	Social Services NWTHC	Rental housing under the northern, rental and public housing programs is generally not available for emergency use such as transition housing. Housing, however, could be released for such use on a permanent basis. The NWT Housing Corporation will approve the rental of a larger house to a family (over accommodate them) sponsored by the Department of Social Services or an approved society to provide transition accommodation in a community. The Department of Social Services will work with the Housing Corporation to assure a co-ordinated response. In Yellowknife, the NWT Housing Corporation is willing to establish a unit at Lanky Court and offer a lease at economic rent. It will also assist in the planning and construction of house(s) if the capital is provided through the Department of Social Services. Housing will be considered on a case-by-case basis.	NWTHC reported that the local Housing Authorities/ Associations will work with Social Services to provide a home for victims of spousal assault. Social Services reports that there is not enough housing.	By: Social Services Not enough emergency housing to meet with needs of victims. Need for second-stage housing. Reviewing establishment of Safe Shelters in private housing on the over accommodation principle of reserving extra bedroom for safe home use.

RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT(S) RESPONSIBLE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION IMPLEMENTED	GENERAL COMMENTS
AID TO VICTIMS **Shelter and Protection**				
13. Provide alternatives for shelter for spousal assault victims. Fund new pilot shelters in communities demonstrating commitment, using existing buildings where possible. (See pgs. 21, 29, 30, 31, 32)	Social Services	There should be temporary shelter available for spousal assault victims and their families. It is preferable if run by community-based groups to ensure that the shelter meets the communities' needs.	Action on: 13 & 14: Should be temporary shelters, preferable if run by community based groups to ensure they meet community needs.	By: Social Services Contact has been made with organizations to participate in shelter programs.
14. Fund the operating costs of existing shelters. (Sappujjijit Friendship Centre in Rankin Inlet, Katimavik Centre in Cambridge Bay, YWCA in Yellowknife and the Crisis Centre in Fort Smith) (See pg. 31)		Social Services is developing a departmental policy which will look at various shelter options including funding existing shelters, setting up new shelters and paying families to provide shelters. Social Services will ensure that counselling services are provided. "Safe Homes" will be identified in all communities providing a single room in communities with populations under 500 and two rooms with populations over 500. A retainer of $900/year would be paid with a per diem rate of $30 and an estimated occupancy rate of 25 percent. "Transition Houses" in the major centres will also be required. Project Costs (Approximate): 1986/87: $1,200,000 1987/88: $1,100,000	Social Services has developed a policy which will look at various shelter options, including setting up new shelters and safe homes. a. Three Transition Homes funded this fiscal year. Iqaluit, Ft. Smith and Yellowknife. b. 10 target communities for Safe Homes. Monthly retainer and per diem rates paid according to occupancy. c. Community-based Crisis Shelter established in Tuktoyaktuk. TRAINING: Training will be offered to Safe Home operators, as well as Transition Home employees and volunteers. a. A proposal for devising a training package to be used in communities or b. Funds made available directly to groups. c. Tuk Crisis Shelter support.	By: Social Services Rankin Inlet and Cambridge ceased shelter operations prior to the start of the Family Violence Programs.

RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT(S) RESPONSIBLE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION IMPLEMENTED	GENERAL COMMENTS
AID TO VICTIMS **Shelter and Protection**				
15. Continue to provide physical protection to victims, consider all complaints as serious and advise victims that batterers should be prosecuted. (see pgs. 19, 20)	RCMP	The RCMP is prepared to comply with this approach. This will be done through the Policy Centre of the Officer in Charge, Criminal Investigation Branch, Northwest Territories.	RCMP will comply with this approach through Policy Centre of the Officer in Charge.	By: RCMP RCMP are laying charges but are finding that women are not calling up for fear of them laying the charge. Need for more follow-up counselling for victim after charges have been laid.
Counselling				
16. Provide for professional Family Life Education Consultants to support victims of spousal assault, their families and offenders through training and advice to nurses, social workers, court workers, RCMP, community groups, volunteers and lay counsellors, and schools. (See pgs. 18, 37)	Health	The Department currently employs a Coordinator of Family Life Education who acts in a consulting/advisory capacity to all groups/departments wishing information on family life topics. Three additional Family Life Education Consultants will report to the Coordinator, and provide regional coverage at a community level to increase knowledge and skills of both public and professionals trying to assist and support victims of violence. Human sexuality, communication skills, parenting, decision-making and values identification instruction provide the key to healthy life-styles and responsibility - the basis of family violence prevention.	a. 3 Family Life Education Consultants hired April '86. The program has a high profile with many requests coming in from communities. Presentations/workshops with professionals and community groups have been held in 20 communities as of March 31/87. Apr. 86 - Ongoing.	By: Health Has had excellent response from communities.

RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT(S) RESPONSIBLE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION IMPLEMENTED	GENERAL COMMENTS
AID TO VICTIMS **Counselling-continued**				
		Sensitivity to and awareness of cultural concerns will be central to the effectiveness of this program. Two years of intensive education by these consultants should provide a firm community base for continued action against family violence. COSTS: 1986/87: $225,000 1987/88: $225,000 Future needs to be evaluated.		
17. Provide for crisis lines in conjunction with NWTel on a regional community basis. Fund space, telephone installation, rental and long distance charges. (Line to be operated by trained volunteers) (See pgs. 22, 26)	Social Services Health	Crisis lines are **not** recommended. This would represent a duplication of services provided by the Mental Health Association and has not proven effective. Information will be provided by the Women's Secretariat regarding Federal grants which may be available to individual communities or regions requiring such a service.	Not recommended. Duplication of service by Mental Health Association which has not proven effective.	By: Social Services Crisis line service to be reviewed as a result of Mental Health Association cancelling the service.
18. Extend counselling to victims provided by professionals by telephone. (See pg. 24)		However, a 24 hour emergency telephone number in each community is being provided and included in Public Information Newsletter.	Social services established a 24hr. telephone number in every region. Published in the Network Newsletter.	

RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT(S) RESPONSIBLE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION IMPLEMENTED	GENERAL COMMENTS
AID TO VICTIMS **Direction & Assistance to Community Agencies**				
	Social Services	Media Campaign	a. ads have been placed in all Northern newspapers. b. brochures distributed outlining the Family Violence Prevention Program, outlining services available from the Department. c. press releases issued. d. press coverage of transition house openings.Ongoing	
19. Foster development of community action groups, volunteers to support victim, and development of lay counsellors involving respected elders of communities. (See pgs. 18, 22, 25-27, 34, 54-55)	Social Services	Solutions to the spousal assault problem must be community-based, taking advantage of the resources already in the community. Social Services will act in an advisory capacity and will take the initiative in forming community-based groups. Contribution funding should be made available through Social services. COST: 1986/87: $155,000 1987/88: $155,000 1988/89: $155,000	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: 10 communities have requested funding for community-based programs. 9 have been funded to March 31/87, others pending. May 86 - Ongoing.	By: Justice Judge ordered a man charged with assault to take counselling at the community level. A J.P. ordered the same man earlier, plus another to take counselling. Offenders can be referred to a batterers' program if one exists. Justice is aware that programs are being offered in two communities.
Treatment and Assistance for Batterers				
20. Review legal aid plan to permit legal aid defence counsel to assist clients (batterers) get treatment and counselling. (See pg. 35)	Justice	Legal Aid will ensure that lawyers are made aware of counselling and treatment services for batterers. It is assumed defence counsel will recommend these services to clients.	Completed where batterers programs are available. Initiated by community groups: Two batterers' programs started: Cambridge Bay Oct. 86 and Inuvik Jan. 87.	

RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT(S) RESPONSIBLE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION IMPLEMENTED	GENERAL COMMENTS
AID TO VICTIMS **Treatment and Assistance for Batterers-continued**				
21. Assess needs of convicted batterers for rehabilitation. Provide anger control therapy and counselling services. Consider anger control therapy as a sentencing option. (See pgs. 35, 49)	Social Services	It is necessary to determine whether being convicted is enough of a deterrent for the batterer or if there is a need for further rehabilitation outside of the correctional facility. A pilot project examining this and the effectiveness of anger control therapy will be conducted. COST: 1986/87: $150,000 1987/88: $100,000* 1988/89: $100,000* * Costs are estimates and will be more readily determined on completion of assessment project in 1986/87.	The Department is seeking research before implementing programs: - research to analyze and interpret viability of such programs; - needs assessment study; - design a series of programs for implementation through the correctional system and community based methods.	By: Social Services Discussions with Y.C.C. pending hiring of psychologist and further development of community-based program for batterers as well as Professional Counselling Services.
Direction & Support for Government Agents Social Workers				
22. Develop departmental policy and procedures for providing services to spousal assault victims and families, ensuring coordination with other agencies involved. (See pgs. 37, 38)	Social Services	The Department of Social Services is developing departmental policy and procedures with regard to spousal assault to ensure that victims and families receive a consistent level of assistance across the Northwest Territories. Part of this consistency involves being aware of and coordinating with other agencies in each community.	Social Services is developing a policy to ensure that victims/families receive a consistent level of assistance across NWT. Interdepartmental Committee on Spousal Assault established to coordinate development of procedures, methods and information. Meets monthly. In place.	

RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT(S) RESPONSIBLE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION IMPLEMENTED	GENERAL COMMENTS
AID TO VICTIMS **Direction & Support for Government Agents Social Workers**				
23. Clarify social workers' duties and responsibilities under present law, and develop in-service training workshops to prepare workers for spousal assault cases. (See pgs. 26, 36, 39-40)	Social Services	The protocol outlining the role of social service workers in connection with other agencies has been developed. (See response to recommendations 7&8) COST: 1986/87: $125,000 1987/88: $140,000* 1988/89: $ 90,000* * Preliminary Estimates	Protocol outlining the role of social service workers in connection with other agencies has been developed. Crisis case management courses offered. Two - One week sessions last fall and winter on spousal assault, child sexual assault, alcohol & drugs and suicides. Updated training information and resource material distributed to field staff.	Need on-going continuous funding.
24. Enhance Social Worker Program at Thebacha College to include training in family violence cases. See pg. 26)	Education Social Services Health	This matter has been addressed and will be followed up with further recommendations to the Board of Governors of Thebacha College. The Department of Education indicates that, while the curriculum for the Social Workers Program at Thebacha College does not have a specific course in family violence, many of the courses in the program do deal with family violence.	Department of Education reports that: The Social Worker Program is a Two year course. 20-25% addresses family violence. Three main social problems identified are alcohol related problems, spousal assault and child abuse. During training, they may be assigned to work in a Transition Home.	

RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT(S) RESPONSIBLE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION IMPLEMENTED	GENERAL COMMENTS
AID TO VICTIMS **Direction & Support for Government Agents** **Social Services**				
		The Department of Health, through the Family Life Education consultants is also prepared to assist in enhancing the existing program.		
25. Give priority to native social workers who apply for education leave or assistance to improve their qualifications. (See pg. 36)	Education	This matter is being referred to the Interdepartmental Staff Development Committee. Native social workers do currently receive first priority in receiving educational leave.	Native social workers do receive first priority in receiving educational leave. Two native social workers are currently on educational leave 86-87. Eight are taking the in-service social worker training program. On-going	By: Education Interdepartmental Committee on Staff Development is responsible for recommending education leave.
Medical Care Professionals				
26. Develop procedures and protocols for the management and documentation of spousal assault cases. (See pgs. 51, 53)	Health & Welfare Medical Services Justice Canada RCMP Health	The Department of Health, RCMP, Social Services and Health and Welfare have already agreed to an interagency protocol referral system. The recommendation will involve participation by field staff as well as co-operation with other agencies in order to create procedures and protocols which can be applied across the Northwest Territories.	The Intergovernmental Medical Legal Committee has formulated guidelines for interagency referral: A Dept. of Health committee has designed forms to document all spousal assault cases presented for medical care, even those where the RCMP not called in, so a pattern of assault can be clearly seen in a patient's chart. Stanton Hospital has approved a policy and protocol for use of these forms; evaluated after a three month trial.	By: Health - Basis for decision if staff feel compelled to involve the police against the patients wishes for his/her own safety. - Will provide a scale against which to measure increasing violence. - Field evaluation has been delayed until the summer 1987. - Baffin region/local Social Services offices have shown interest in using these forms.

RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT(S) RESPONSIBLE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION IMPLEMENTED	GENERAL COMMENTS
AID TO VICTIMS **Agents of the Law** **Judges/Prosecutors**				
27. That the Commissioner of the NWT and the Federal Minister of Justice consider appointment of women to judicial office and assignment of women to positions as crown attorneys. (See pg. 47)	Justice Canada Commissioner of the NWT	There are currently 3 (of 6) female prosecutors.	a. For judicial appointments, recognize it's direction to go, but doubt that it will be formalized. b. For Crown counsel assignments, this has been implemented.	By: Justice Canada Currently 3 out of 6 female prosecutors. No women judges.
28. When dealing with applications for peace bonds, bail review and sentencing of batterers, note the right of victims to remain in their own homes and communities. (See pg. 21)	Justice Canada	Judges may order a batterer not to communicate or harras s a victim by issuing a restraining order. The batterer is in civil contempt if he/she does not abide by this order, however, there may be no RCMP in the community to enforce the order and the batterer's spouse may allow the offender back in the house. Community agencies/social workers will ensure that victims are informed of their rights and told that if their spouse has been issued a restraining order he/she does not have to be allowed back into the home. They will also help the victim develop an escape plan where the batterer ignores the order.	Policy implemented.	
29. Hold judicial interim release hearings in appropriate spousal assault cases. (See pg. 45)	Justice Canada Justice	As the public/government cannot be seen to be influencing the decision of judges, these matters must be left to the discretion of the judiciary.	Crown Counsel do hold jusdicial interim release hearings in appropriate cases, recognizing the objectives to be served, including protection of the victim.	By: Justice Territorial Very well summarized in the decision of Mr. Justice deWeerdt in R. v Capot-Blanc (1986), unreported 17-23.
30. Consider whether sentences act as a general deterrent to the public or a specific deterrent to the individual. (See pg. 48)				

RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT(S) RESPONSIBLE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION IMPLEMENTED	GENERAL COMMENTS
AID TO VICTIMS **Agents of the Law** **Judges/Prosecutors**				
31. Allow prosecutors and judges to spend more time in communities (See pg.34).	Justice Canada	This is currently being done within the limitations of the resources of the Federal and N.W.T. Governments.	This is being done within the limitations of the resources of the Federal Government. Deputy judges and extra circuits are being added	
32. Ensure that crown prosecutors have been trained for spousal assault cases and that they consult with professionals and community when determining whether to lay a charge in a spousal assault case and that, where prosecutors have special interests and aptitudes, spousal assault cases be assigned to them. (See pgs. 46, 47)	Justice Canada	To the extent possible this is presently done: Crown Prosecutors do attend training seminars. However, with the current demands on the system specific prosecutors cannot normally be designated for spousal assault cases.	They attend seminars. To the extent possible this is presently being done.	By: Justice Canada With current demands on the system, specific prosecutors cannot normally be designated for spousal assault cases. R. v Capot-Blanc (1986) unreported, page 15.
33. Provide training for prosecutors in the NWT.	Justice Canada			
Court Workers				
34. Provide for professional or lay advocates to advise victims and provide support during court proceedings. (See pgs. 27, 48)	Justice	Under existing law the victims advocate is the prosecutor. In civil matters, Legal Aid provides lawyers for restraining order, maintenance and division of property. Information for victims will be available through community agencies and professionals.		By: Justice Territorial R. v Capot-Blanc (1986) unreported page 14 (Court appears supportive of the idea of victims' advocates). Departmental review underway to enhance programs for victims.

RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT(S) RESPONSIBLE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION IMPLEMENTED	GENERAL COMMENTS
AID TO VICTIMS **Justice & Public Services**				
35. Provide for courtworkers to respond to victims' enquiries and consider enhancing duties to courtworkers to include acting as an intermediary and advocate for victims. (See pg. 27)	Justice	The current role of courtworkers is to assist in the advocacy process. They provide a referral service but do not act as social workers/counsellors. Federal funding for the courtworkers' program does not allow them to act as an advocate for the victim. The Department of Justice and Public Services will encourage the preservation of the current role of courtworker.	Native courtworkers advise victims about Court procedures. If asked they will tell victims when they need to go to Court. Victims will be referred to relevant support agencies including safe houses, family counselling, social services, legal aid. Refer victims to the Crown prior to the court date if the victim wants to speak to the prosecutor, give advise about peace bonds, restraining orders, separation agreements. Involved with transition houses and speaking to counsellors.	Federal funding for this program does NOT allow them to act as advocate for the victim. Justice will encourage the preservation of the current role of courtworkers.
36. Review legislation and prepare a draft ordinance on spousal assault. (See pg. 28)	Justice	In Canada, assault is considered an offence under the Federal Criminal Code and is not within the jurisdiction of the Northwest Territories. Therefore, there is no initiative at present for Justice to prepare legislation dealing directly with spousal assault. The Department of Justice is reviewing legislation on family law. Issues being considered include:	Assault is an offence under the Federal Criminal Code and not within the jurisdiction of the NWT. Justice Canada is ready, willing and able to consult if deemed appropriate by Territorial Justice.	Dept. of Justice will not be responding to this recommendation because Federal assault legislation is already in place. Justice is reviewing legislation on Family Law which includes spousal support obligations.

RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT(S) RESPONSIBLE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION IMPLEMENTED	GENERAL COMMENTS
AID TO VICTIMS **Justice & Public Services**				
		a. property sharing and division of property upon marriage breakdown; b. spousal support obligations; c. child support obligations; d. restraining order to prevent asset waste; e. restraining orders to prevent harassment; f. provisions for exclusive possession of a matrimonial home in certain circumstances; g. separation agreements.		
37. Review and consider amending Mental Health Ordinance (through consultation) to permit batters with suspected psychological problems to be committed for mental examination. (See pg. 52)	Justice Health	There needs to be some mechanism to allow batterers with suspected psychological problems to be committed for mental examination, both for the protection of themselves and their victims and families. The Mental Health Act was amended at the 1985 second session of the Legislative Assembly. This recommendation was considered before the Act was passed. Although there is no specific provision dealing with batterers, the Department of Health believes that the provisions for nonvoluntary committal are sufficient to include a perpetrator of spousal assault "with suspected psychological problems". This	Completed	By: Justice Territorial New Mental Health Act passed in June 1985 and is broad enough for a perpetrator with psycological problems to be committed.

RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT(S) RESPONSIBLE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION IMPLEMENTED	GENERAL COMMENTS
AID TO VICTIMS **Justice & Public Services**				
		is justifiable only when a person is in a state to be a danger to himself or to others. Under any other circumstances, the deprivation of personal liberty under involuntary committal would constitute an infringement on that person's liberty and civil rights under the Charter of Rights. The Department of Justice supports this position.		
RCMP				
38. That the Commissioner of the RCMP consider assignment of women to "G" division positions in the RCMP. (See pg. 47)		Women members of the RCMP have been, and are, serving in the Northwest Territories.	Women members have been and are serving in the NWT.	By: RCMP 6 police women as of March 31/87: 2- Hay River; 1- Iqaluit; 2- Yellowknife, 1- Fort McPherson, With rotational transfers this summer this will increase to 8.
39. Explore diversion for batterers who might otherwise be prosecuted in courts where appropriate. (See pg. 45)	RCMP	The Minister of Justice Canada and the Solicitor General of Canada has ordered that charges be laid by the police if there is sufficient evidence to support such charges. RCMP policy states in part "lay a charge when you have reasonable and probable grounds to believe an assault has occurred". Diversion as an alternative may be explored at the discretion of the RCMP and prosecutor.	The policy requiring the RCMP to lay charges has heightened awareness of the seriousness of spousal assault and put the discretion to proceed in its proper place: with the Crown prosecutors.	By: Justice Canada Diversion as an alternative may be explored at the discretion of the judge, bearing in mind the principles of sentencing for crimes of violence.
40. Review the policy allowing RCMP to lay charges in spousal assault cases and continue to lay charges in as many cases as possible. (See pg. 44)	RCMP			

RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENT(S) RESPONSIBLE	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	ACTION IMPLEMENTED	GENERAL COMMENTS
AID TO VICTIMS				
RCMP				
41. Consult with other professionals in community in spousal assault cases. (See pg. 46)	RCMP	The RCMP have agreed to this recommendation and support the Interagency Referral System.	RCMP have agreed to this and support the Interagency Referral System. - RCMP are encouraged to advise community alcohol committees in any reduction of drug use to combat illicit drug use.	
42. Provide special training to recruits and In-Service Training on spousal assault investigation and case preparation. (See pg. 46)	RCMP	Training for recruits in domestic disputes/violence/child abuse has been on-going in the Training Academy in Regina since the mid-1970's . Some of this training takes the form of professional actors from Regina Globe Theatre Productions creating and acting our different types of domestic encounters.	Training in domestic disputes/violence/child abuse has been on-going since mid '70's in Regina and Ottawa. Special constable 15 weeks, 6 months field training. Ongoing.	By: RCMP Formal lectures and video distribution.
43. Take statements from household members witnessing spousal assault. (See pg. 44)		Investigations into complaints of assault are conducted and charges are to be laid according to RCMP policy when supported be evidence, which includes statements from household members.	Investigations into complaints of assault are conducted and charges laid according to RCMP policy when supported by evidence, which includes household statements.	
Comments by the Ministerial Committee Members:				
Legal Aid Services Board		More time spent by the Crown with women, once a charge has been laid. Usually no time as Court Circuits are very busy. She is confused by the process and intimidated when she has to go to court, sometimes changes her story, and charged with mischief or perjury. Need for an "advocate" that will advise women of court process and support her.		

APPENDIX A

WOMEN'S SECRETARIAT
CONTRIBUTION FUNDING
1986/87

FUNDING APPROVED	**(* funding spent on spousal assault initiatives)**	**$50,000.00**
1.	**Aug '86 - Y.W.C.A. Yellowknife** - Accommodation/meals for 16 community participants to attend a Popular Education Facilitator Training Workshop for 7 days. Jointly funded with Dept. of Health and Secretary of State.	**5,162.00**
2.	**Aug '86 - Inuit Broadcasting Corporation*** - Towards the final editing of a film, in Inuktitut, on spousal assault call "No Summer for Louisa". Jointly funded with National Health & Welfare.	**5,000.00**
3.	**Oct '86 - Y.W.C.A. Yellowknife*** - To provide a 6 month Child Care Program at the Transition Home, travel to a conference on child care needs in a Home. Transition Home funded by Dept. of Social Services.	**15,000.00**
4.	**Nov '86 - Y.W.C.A. Yellowknife** - Contribution towards publication of an historical brochure for their 20th Anniversary Celebration.	**500.00**
5.	**Nov '86 - Katimavik Centre, Cambridge Bay*** - To provide child care services for women attending a women's support group facilitated by an intervention counsellor. Counsellor position funded by the Secretary of State and C.E.I.C.	**1,192.00**
6.	**Dec '86 - Arctic PLEI, Yellowknife** - To attend the National Association of Women and the Law Conference, followed by a series of seminars on women and the law.	**1,107.00**
7.	**Jan '87 - Hay River Women's Coalition*** - Start-up funds to begin setting up a safe-home network for victims of spousal in the community.	**570.00**
8.	**Jan '87 - Inuit Women's Association, Ottawa** - Contribution to their Annual General Meeting in Spence Bay, April 1987. Secretary of State is also contributing.	**10,000.00**
9.	**Jan '87 - Y.W.C.A. Job Re-Entry Program** - Contribution to the graduation celebration. 11 month course: life skills, business admin., secretarial/ computer, on-the-job training. 10 graduates. The Women's Secretariat had one student on a 6-week placement.	**400.00**

10.	**Jan '87 - Baffin Women's Association, Iqaluit** - Towards a celebration of International Women's Day. Panel discussions with local Inuit women, Toni Graeme and Maureen McTeer on a variety of issues of concern to women. Jointly funded with Secretary of State.		**2,000.00**
11.	**Feb '87 - Hamlet of Coppermine*** - For a series of workshops with local groups on assertiveness, counselling skills, personal growth.		**3,429.60**
12.	**Feb '87 - Ingamo Hall Friendship Centre, Inuvik*** - Sponsor for a community person to attend a Family Violence Conference in Edmonton, March '87.		**1,235.60**
13.	**Feb '87 - Indian Band, Fort McPherson*** - Sponsor for a community person to attend a Family Violence Conference in Edmonton, March '87.		**1,235.60**
14.	**Feb '87 - Ingamo Hall Friendship Centre, Inuvik** - Contribution towards an International Women's Day Celebration, "Northern Women's Talents".		**800.00**
15.	**Feb '87 - Akiuqtit D & A Centre, Baker Lake*** - Sponsor a community person to attend a Family Violence Conference in Edmonton, March '87.		**2,223.00**
		TOTAL	**49,855.50**

***SPENT ON SPOUSAL ASSAULT INITIATIVES IN 1986/87:** **TOTAL** **29,885.80**

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION SERVICES
CONTRIBUTION FUNDING
1986/87

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

1.	**Fort Providence Dene Band** - Provisions for a Women's Co-ordinator to promote community awareness of the problem of spousal assault and child neglect.	**$19,104.00**
2.	**T'seko Nezi Geeda Giwo, Rae-Edzo** - Funding safe home co-ordinator/counsellor to provide emergency support for victims of spousal assault, counselling, public awareness.	**13,420.00**
3.	**Dene Nation, Yellowknife** - Radio program "Behind Closed Doors", in collaboration with the Dept. of Culture and Communications supplementary funding.	**2,500.00**
4.	**Hay River Women's Coalition** - Hiring of Program Co-ordinator to consolidate available information regarding spousal assault and to organize interagency committee to deal with the problems and sponsor workshops. **Supplementary funding.**	**9,640.00**
5.	**Dene Nation, Yellowknife** **Fort Simpson** **Fort McPherson** - Presentation of workshops in two communities to create an awareness of issues related to family violence.	 **5,510.00** **6,820.00**
6.	**Mental Health Association, Inuvik** - Spousal Assault Intervention Project providing counselling for batterers, emergency counselling, increasing awareness of spousal assault and encourage community action.	**41,500.00**
7.	**Y.W.C.A., Yellowknife** - 4-day workshop to provide cross-cultural awareness training for staff, Board and volunteers.	**4,400.00**
8.	**Kautajak Society, Rankin Inlet** - Funding for a 3-day community workshop with representatives from Keewatin communities to develop community action against spousal assault.	**20,000.00**

9. **Baffin Regional Agvvik Society, Iqaluit** - Funds for staff training, preparation of staff manuals and Board training seminars in preparation for operating Transition House.		62,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL	187,011.00

TRAINING

1. **Integrated Response to Family Violence Conference, Edmonton** - Sponsored 12 community representatives to attend this conference from Yellowknife, Fort Simpson, Inuvik, Fort Smith, Fort McPherson, Coppermine, Cambridge Bay, Igloolik, Pangnirtung and Rankin Inlet.		17.010.00
	SUB-TOTAL	17,010.00

SHELTER PROGRAMS

1. **Sutherland Transition House, Fort Smith** - Sponsored by the Tawow Society. 3-bedroom unit providing accommodations and counselling (funding for 6 months).		58,739.00
2. **Nutaraq's Place, Iqaluit** - Sponsored by the Baffin Agvvik Society. 7-bedroom unit providing comprehensive referral services, counselling and accommodation (funding for 3 months).		70,963.00
3. **MacAteer House, Yellowknife** - Sponsored by the Y.W.C.A. 4-bedroom unit with children's area and full facilities (funding for 8 months).		129,399.00
4. **Tuktoyaktuk Crisis Centre** - Sponsored by the Tuk Citizens Committee. 2-bedroom unit providing shelter, meeting place and referral services (funding for 4 months).		34,186.00
	SUB-TOTAL	293,287.00
	TOTAL	$497,308.00